

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: TGEN, OXEC, MARR, SP

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:
SECOND ROUND POST DOCTORAL AND TRAVEL GRANTS

REF: MADRID 3543

1. FOLLOWING IS ASSISTANT SECRETARY MINK'S REPLY TO LETTER
FROM MR. BARROSO REGARDING SPANISH REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF
CONVOCATORIA AND FUND ALLOCATION FOR POST DOCTORAL GRANTS.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. BARROSO:

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR LETTER CONCERNING AN EXPANDED
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AND TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAMS. YOUR
COMMENTS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE PROGRAMS TO SCI-
ENTIFIC PROGRESS HAVE BEEN PERSUASIVE IN OVERCOMING THE
RESERVATIONS WE HAD EXPRESSED TO YOU PREVIOUSLY IN THE
JOINT COMMITTEE.

REGARDING YOUR REQUEST THAT I APPROVE THE TEXT OF THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL STATE BULLETIN, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. SIDE OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLICATION OF MATERIAL IN THE SPANISH STATE BULLETIN; THAT IS A DECISION FOR THE APPROPRIATE SPANISH AUTHORITIES.

WE ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE PROPOSED RULES FOR APPLICANTS. REQUIREMENT F, WHICH SPECIFIES THAT APPLICATIONS FOR AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ORIGINATED BY SPANISH INVESTIGATORS, DOES NOT CONTAIN A CORRESPONDING REQUIREMENT FOR SPANISH PARTICIPANTS. WITH ITS ELIMINATION, REQUIREMENT D WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR EQUAL TREATMENT OF PARTICIPANTS OF BOTH NATIONALITIES. THE OTHER CONCERN IS THE REQUIREMENT THAT APPLICATIONS BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 30 WORKING DAYS. I BELIEVE THAT THIS WOULD BE A DIFFICULT REQUIREMENT FOR POTENTIAL AMERICAN APPLICANTS; ACCORDINGLY, I BELIEVE THAT TO ENSURE EQUALITY OF TREATMENT, AN APPROPRIATE EXTENSION OF TIME FOR AMERICAN APPLICANTS SHOULD BE ALLOWED SO THAT WE COULD TAKE STEPS TO SOLICIT APPLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

AS TO THE FUNDS REQUESTED IN YOUR LETTER FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS AND TRAVEL GRANTS, I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT ADEQUATE PROVISION BE MADE FOR FUNDING THE CONTINUAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION OF THOSE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROPOSALS ALREADY APPROVED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CRITERIA ADOPTED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE, AND ALSO FOR THOSE AREAS SUGGESTED BY THE U.S. SIDE AT THE LAST JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING TO WHICH THE SPANISH SIDE AGREED TO GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION. WITH THESE STIPULATIONS, I BELIEVE THAT AT THE FORTHCOMING JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, APPROPRIATE ACTION CAN BE TAKEN ON YOUR REQUEST FOR POSTDOCTORAL AND TRAVEL GRANTS.

I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT MEETING.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

PATSY T. MINK
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

END TEXT.

2. FYI - WE REGRET THE URGENCY OF THE SPANISH SIDE REQUIREMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE CONSIDERING THE COMPLEX

NATURE OF THE SUBJECT. WE WOULD HOPE THE EMBASSY COULD
IMPRESS UPON THE SPANISH SIDE IN THE FUTURE THAT DECISIONS
OF COMPLEX ISSUES ARE BEST NOT MADE IN HASTE. VANCE

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